

## Early/Middle Colleges

Early/Middle Colleges are designed to meet the needs of students who may do better in a non-traditional high school setting or are interested in being challenged. The students attend for five-years and earn both a high school diploma and an associate's degree, 60 college credits, or a technical certificate.

Early/Middle Colleges may be career focused and many times are located on a college campus. These programs are created through community collaborations between an intermediate or local school district and a postsecondary institution.

Enrollment in these schools can begin as early as ninth grade with college classes beginning as early as tenth grade. Early/Middle Colleges are available in many locations in Michigan.

*For a list of Early/Middle College High Schools in Michigan, visit:*

[http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-43092\\_51178---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-43092_51178---,00.html)

## International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program

The International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma program is offered to students aged 16 to 19 who attend an IB-designated school. IB programs offer students a demanding two-year curriculum measured by international assessments and widely accepted as college credit by colleges and universities.

- **Qualifications:** All students in an IB school qualify.
  - **Course Costs:** While course costs are generally covered by the school district, the costs associated with required assessments may or may not be covered.
  - **Course Location:** High School.
- For a list of IB schools in Michigan, visit <http://www.ibo.org>.*

## Earning College Credit In High School



YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A

GENIUS

TO ACT LIKE ONE!



THE CHOICE

IS UP TO YOU!

## LIFE IS ALL ABOUT CHOICES

The choices you make right now will have a dramatic impact on your future.

As a Michigan student, you may have an opportunity to experience college while you're in high school. In fact, by choosing this option you could earn high school credit, college credit, or both.

## NOT ROCKET SCIENCE

Finding out about early college credit opportunities is not rocket science. But taking college courses and earning REAL college credits in high school is pure genius. Compute this—students who take college level courses while in high school rarely drop out of school; require fewer remedial and entry level college courses; have a greater chance of graduating; and could earn over \$1 million more in their lifetime!

## ARE THESE CLASSES RIGHT FOR ME?

Regardless of where you are in high school, these classes could be right for you. They are for all students who want to move their future into the fast lane towards a lifetime of success. In fact, just as world class athletes continue to break records, studies show that the more you're challenged the more you learn and the farther you go.

## AM I ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THESE COURSES?

Yes! All students are eligible for all early college credit opportunities. However, some courses may have prerequisites. Because early college credit opportunities differ from district to district, check with your high school guidance counselor to see which options your school offers.

### Career Technical Education (CTE)

Career Technical Education programs provide students with a great way to explore a variety of careers and potentially earn college credit while in high school.

Students usually begin a two-year program in their junior year, however the length of the program can vary. Most CTE students split their time between high school and either a career in a technical education center or a community college.

Because these programs are aligned to both high school and college courses, CTE offers students a seamless transition between high school, career technical education programs, and college.

- **Qualifications:** All students are eligible to apply.
- **Credit:** Courses can count for high school credit, college credit, or both, depending on the program.
- **Course Costs:** Most or all costs are covered by district.
- **Course Location:** Split time between high school, career center, or community college.
- **Transportation:** May be provided by the district.

## THESE ARE YOUR OPTIONS

### Advanced Placement (AP)

Advanced Placement (AP) courses provide students with the opportunity to take college level courses right at high school that are taught by high school teachers.

The course offerings and requirements for these programs may differ from district to district, so check with your counselor.

- **Qualifications:** Schools may require you to complete a lower level course in the same subject.
- **Credit:** Courses can count as high school credit and college credit. To earn college credit in an AP course, you will need to earn a minimum score of 3 (out of 5) on an AP college credit test.
- **Course Costs:** Costs for these programs may differ from district to district. AP tuition costs are generally covered by districts. However, if you wish to take the test for college credit there usually is a cost, except for students who qualify for free and reduced lunch.
- **Course Location:** High School.

### Dual Enrollment Courses

This option allows students in grades 9-12 to take classes in high school and one or more college level classes at a college campus or online. These are generally courses not offered at your high school or that can not fit into your schedule.

- **Qualifications:** To be eligible to take a dual enrollment course, you must have a qualifying score on the ACT Plan, PSAT or Michigan Merit Exam.
- **Credit:** Courses can count for high school credit, college credit, or both— it's up to you.
- **Course Costs:** Most or all costs are covered by the district.
- **Course Location:** College campus or online.
- **Transportation:** Provided by student.